

Amendments to the Specification

Kindly insert the following paragraph at page 8 of the specification, after line 30:

Brief Description of the Figures

Fig. 1 shows schematic examples of novel Mn-SODs derived from *B. stearothermophilus* and *B. caldotenax*;

Fig. 2 shows schematic examples of novel Mn-SOD fusion proteins showing the use of peptides and proteins to facilitate purification of the enzyme from the production strain;

Fig. 3 shows a recombinant Mn-SOD construct of the invention;

Fig. 4 shows the production of a Mn-SOD construct by chemical methods; and

Fig. 5 shows the results of an example to demonstrate the protective effects of a construct of the invention on NG108 cells subjected to oxidative stress by the addition of 50 μ M duroquinone for four hours.

At page 10, line 20, please replace the paragraph with the following paragraph:

an oligonucleotide encoding a linker peptide which contains the thrombin protease cleavage site and a cysteine residue for disulphide bridge formation (peptide sequence: CGLVPAGSGP) (SEQ ID NO.:12);

Please insert the Sequence Listing at the end of the application.